



# *City of Imperial Beach, California*

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - CODE COMPLIANCE DIVISION**

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## **Summary of Required Mold Abatement Actions**

**Code enforcement officers and housing inspectors are not qualified to provide health-related advice or assistance. Do not rely on their assessments or any inspection records as it relates to health risks or concerns. Health-related mold concerns should be directed to your physician. Review the State Health Department's guidelines for commonly asked questions and general overall advice. A copy is attached.**

An immediate response and thorough cleaning, drying, and/or removal of water-damaged materials will prevent or limit mold growth. In addition to the corrections specified in any warning notice, follow the guidelines in the attached publication related to mold cleaning, removal safety practices, and tenant/occupant notification.

In addition to taking prompt action as described above, mold problems are only resolved by determining the source or cause of water intrusion or moisture condensation that is contributing to the mold growth and taking corrective action to eliminate and/or prevent the intrusion or condensation. The underlying moisture problem must be corrected to prevent recurring mold growth. An appropriate building expert may be needed to identify and repair building problems.

Clean and thoroughly remove all visible mold. Non-porous material (e.g., metals, glass, and hard plastics) may be able to be cleaned. Semi-porous and porous structural materials, such as wood and concrete, can be cleaned if they are structurally sound.

Replace all water damaged building materials including all drywall containing more than a small amount of visible mold or where mold has penetrated its outer surface. Wallboard must be cleaned or removed at least six inches beyond visually assessed mold growth (including hidden area) or wet or water-damaged areas.

Building repairs involving mold contaminated material creates a greater risk of exposing workers and occupants to airborne mold and can cause adverse health effects. Follow accepted safe practices to minimize worker and occupant exposure to mold. Do not rely on this brief summary for guidance. Refer to the attached State publication and review other Internet-published PDF documents such as those listed below for more detailed information on mold remediation, prevention, and safe work practices.

- State of California: Mold or Moisture in My Home: What Do I Do?
- State of California: A General Guide to Health Effects, Prevention, and Remediation
- New York City: Guidelines on Assessment and Remediation of Fungi in Indoor Environments
- US EPA: A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture, and Your Home